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EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE
C. W. WARBURTON, *Director*

REUBEN BRIGHAM, *Assistant Director*

TOMORROW . . .

Rural Health. Provisions of the Social Security Act making possible further development of rural health service will be discussed by Surg. Gen. Thomas Parran, Jr., under whose bureau the funds will be administered.

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Pests. This summer grasshoppers in unusually large numbers must be fought to save crops in many areas. The description of an efficient method of mixing and handling poison bait worked out by a Colorado county agent will interest many.

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Broadcasting. Agents considering how they can use the radio in developing a better extension program will appreciate the account of extension broadcasting in Texas.

• • •

Management. Profits in good management have been successfully demonstrated to farmers in 57 Indiana counties by Extension Economist O. G. Johanningsmeier, who has written an article describing his methods.

• • •

Tenants. The South Carolina plantation project, which calls for the co-operation of landlords and tenants in planting adequate food and feed crops, is discussed by Lonny I. Landrum, State home demonstration agent.

On the Calendar

- National Association of County Agricultural Agents, Washington, D. C., June 8-10.
- Second National Cooperative Recreation School, Des Moines, Iowa, June 7-18.
- Thirty-second Annual Convention of American Dairy Science Association, Lincoln, Nebr., June 22-25.
- National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D. C., June 17-23.
- American Home Economics Association, Kansas City, Mo., June 21-25.
- American Association for the Advancement of Science, Denver, Colo., June 21-26.
- American Institute of Cooperation, Ames, Iowa, June 21-26.
- National Education Association, Detroit, Mich., June 27-July 1.
- Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., Sept. 19-24.
- American Country Life Association, Manhattan, Kans., Oct. 14-16.

C. B. SMITH, *Assistant Director*

Extension Service Review

Published monthly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the interest of cooperative extension work.....L.A.Schlup, Editor

What Is the Extension Job?

As We See It in Colorado

Extension work, as we see it in Colorado, depends on the development of programs based upon adequate factual information concerning current problems. Such information is obtained through scientific research and through the experiences of farmers and stockmen over a period of time, determined by personal contacts and by surveys to gather data of definite social and economic bearing on the agricultural situation.

The Job of Correlation

Once programs are developed, our next consideration is the integration of related programs through definite and effective correlation on the basis that the Extension Service is the recognized agency through which all educational and demonstrational work affecting the farm and the farm home shall be conducted. In Colorado this has been accomplished very effectively through the organization of a State agricultural clearing committee, the membership of which is composed of administrative members of every State and Federal agency dealing with agriculture in the State.

With an understanding of the kind of activity that needs to be carried on and the correlation of related programs, the objectives of extension work must be established. Economic objectives deal directly with farming as a business and emphasize adjustments in farming operations that will result in more adequate

The starting point for an analysis of any activity must necessarily be an interpretation of the job itself, and this is particularly true of extension work because of the scope of its activity.

income on the farm. Such adjustments include balancing farm production between crops and livestock; providing necessary reserves in feed, seed, and cash; and the adoption of effective control measures for the preservation and conservation of land and other resources.

People Versus Projects

Closely associated with economic objectives and largely dependent upon them are social objectives dealing with farming as a living. Social objectives are dependent upon economic conditions that allow the farm family sufficient home expenditures in addition to the farm expenditures and are, therefore, closely associated with all phases of extension work. We must never overlook the fact that people are more important than projects.

Social objectives include such things as the development of community spirit through creation of loyalty of farm neighbors to each other, community pride, and working toward common community objectives. Advancement of farm living may be effected through the development and use of home and farm improvements such as electricity, water facilities, telephones, and radios; the improvement of rural schools; the establishment of rural health services and the reduction of medical costs; the discovery, development, training, and use of rural leaders; the development of the talents of rural youth; and the provision of recreational facilities in rural districts.

These are some of the things that we are doing to make farm living more attractive by bringing to the farm the conveniences and the educational and recreational advantages of the cities.

(Continued on page 94)



F. A. ANDERSON
Director
of Colorado
Extension Service

Extension Reading Course

Popular With Maryland Homemakers

VENIA M. KELLAR

State Home Demonstration Agent
Maryland



THE FAMILY reading course has been a most popular activity with Maryland homemakers. Many of the women who had not previously developed the reading habit are now reading books. Others who had been great readers have been encouraged to read more. Older club members who were not enthusiastic about carrying project work have entered into this prescribed reading with new enthusiasm and many have made a real contribution to a club program by giving a fine book review or helping to establish club libraries. Through reading the women have kept abreast of the times and have been able to lead discussions on government. There is every evidence that the family reading course has done much to develop leadership among the women.

Appreciating the busy life of the homemaker and the lack of good library facilities, a list of good books with definite places where they could be obtained, was recommended by the State Extension Service.

The books were classified under the following headings: "For a Higher Spiritual Life", "For a Better Understanding of Children", "People We Should Know", "These United States", "Our State History", "Other Lands and People", and "Fiction."

Women Review Books

From 10 to 20 good books were suggested under each heading. Where county libraries did not have all of the books recommended, they substituted a list of books that they had, classifying them under the seven headings above.

In addition to the reading list, the women were given "Suggested Helps for Reading Course." These helps point out the information to look for in reading a book and how to give interesting book reviews.

The State Library Commission cooperates in this reading course by giving a certificate to each person who reads eight books. A seal is given to be placed on the certificate held by the reader for each eight additional books read. Each homemakers' club has a reading chairman who makes the club report on the number of books read to the county reading chairman and the home demonstration agent. Therefore, a very careful check is kept of all books read. There were 26,393 books reported read in the State last year, and 555 certificates were awarded.

Results are Testimonials

In one county 239 women turned in brief written book reports to the reading chairman. These 239 women read 2,789 books in 6 months. The home demonstration agent said that it was interesting to note that several clubs comprised of very busy farm women came up with some of the best reports. One club of 12, all of them farm women, had 10 members qualify for State library certificates by reviewing the necessary 8 books. One busy farm woman, who said she had never read a book of fiction, earned her library certificate and has developed quite a taste for books of travel. In another group where the women were so weary at night that they fell asleep when they tried to read, plans were made to read some short stories aloud to the family. In some instances, when reviewing books of travel, the club member would bring articles from the country described and display them. This added much to the interest of the book review.

In this same county the reading program serves to recall some of the members who were not interested in a single straight home-economics program. It also encouraged women to take a small part on the program who would never take the responsibility of a project demonstrator. It has opened up a new world to the women who could not take the time to read or had never acquired a taste for reading.

Another county reports: "Many books have been read, reported on, and discussed throughout the county this year.

Our members have read not only good fiction but also histories, biographies, books of travel, books on home problems, poems, and classics."

Each club in this particular county is the proud possessor of about 30 good books available to all members. Next year there will be a county drive for more and better books. Libraries will be established in the communities for family reading, and the public will have access to all the books.

Another county reports that 10 clubs have obtained traveling libraries as a source of reading material for their members.

Another county reports: "We are grateful and appreciative of the efforts of the Extension Service whose suggestion and leadership have aroused our interest in good literature. The outstanding result of this project has been that the taste for good literature has increased, and even the readers of good literature have gone farther.

History of Churches Studied

In 1937, as an addition to the reading project, we are making a study of the old churches of Maryland. Each county will write the history of its five oldest churches. The final writing will be in the hands of a small committee, and each county will engage an artist to make drawings of the churches.

The family reading project serves the need for diversion and variety. Many feel at the end of the working day that there is little extra vitality for the give and take of social activities. But through our friends, the books, by our own fireside or under our own reading lamp, we can visit far countries, we can experience all kinds of adventure, we can meet and know all kinds of people. Indeed, the homemakers' club which adds reading to its program is making a distinct contribution to community life.

ELEVEN counties of Pennsylvania reported 100 percent completion of projects in 4-H club work in 1936.



Crop Insurance on Wheat

A. G. BLACK

Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics

THE CASE for crop insurance on the farms is much the same as the case for insurance anywhere in the field of business. The principle of insurance is relied upon constantly by businessmen to meet the hazards of trade. Wheat, for example, is covered by insurance at every turn, from the moment it lands in the country elevator until the sack of flour is put into the consumer's hands. In other words, within the field of distribution wheat is amply insured. Now the proposal is to carry the principle back one step and cover the wheat while it is within the field of production.

The droughts and floods of the last few years have driven home this growing necessity for some economic protection against the sudden wreckage of the farmer's income and of his credit.

The Federal Government has been obliged to expend an enormous amount of money for relief in areas stricken by drought, storms, and other disasters. Within the last 10 years some \$600,000,000 has been so disbursed. If it is feasible to set up a system of crop insurance which will help to eliminate this heavy burden of relief expenditures, that fact alone will be no small justification for governmental action. Then there is the further possibility of helping to stabilize market supplies of essential foods and fibers—a matter certainly affected with a public interest.

Committee Makes Study

This question of crop insurance has had some attention in Congress and the Department of Agriculture over a period of years. Last fall the President appointed a committee to investigate the practical possibilities of the matter and report as to legislation on it. This committee went into the matter carefully, consulted representatives of the

old-line insurance companies, as well as the farm organizations, storage interests, and others concerned, and became convinced that the Federal Government could and should take an experimental step in this field. It so recommended to the President. During the winter a bill was drawn. It has been passed in the Senate and at this writing awaits consideration in the House.

This proposal is to set up an insurance system for wheat. It will, of course, be in a measure experimental. If it succeeds, presumably the system will be expanded later to cover other important crops.

The intent is to insure a certain percentage of average crop yields. For example, if the average yield of wheat on a given farm is 16 bushels to the acre, insurance might be offered to cover 75 percent of this yield, or 12 bushels.

It is not intended to offer insurance that will indemnify farmers against a fixed money loss. That would involve the hazards of the markets as well as of production. Some of the private companies who entered this field made that mistake, and it proved a very costly one. The intent now is to insure yields but not price.

In order to get away from the whole effect of price fluctuations, the proposal is to make payments "in kind." Payment of insurance premiums in wheat at once makes possible the creation of a reserve supply of grain which can take on a significance outside the insurance scheme proper. That is to say, it may be possible to tie up with this program of insurance an ever-normal granary principle which may have an important incidental effect in stabilizing the market and which could in time become a significant item in the national economy.

As to the machinery of operation, when a farmer has taken out insurance on his wheat presumably he will bring in his premium payments to a local elevator designated to receive them. Such wheat

might possibly be kept in the local elevators or transferred to central points for storage. Under some conditions a farmer might prefer to make his premium payment in cash rather than in wheat, and this he could readily do, paying the current cash equivalent.

When loss payments are made, undoubtedly these would usually be paid in cash equivalent, as, in the average case, growers probably will not wish to have grain moving backward toward the farm. These loss payments might be made in various ways, either directly in the form of a check or possibly a warehouse receipt, or the farmer might be given a claim against his due amount of wheat in the central reserves which would then become his property to dispose of at his option.

Premium Rates to Vary

In determining premium rates, the intent is to base them quite directly upon the loss experience on each individual farm, though the county or regional figures will also be used as an adjusting factor. This, of course, necessitates collecting a large amount of data on average yields on individual farms. As a result of the A. A. A. operations, such data are now available on a large number of wheat farms covering a period of some 6 years. The lack of such basic data was one of the rocks upon which the private insurance companies stumbled in this field. It will take some time to assemble similar yield figures for individual farms covering other crops, and that is one reason why the present experiment in crop insurance is being limited to wheat.

Under this method of relating the premium directly to the individual farm, the good farmer on good land is not penalized nor is the poor farmer on marginal land subsidized. It is no part of the purpose to put an artificial prop under poor land or bad farming.

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Utah Counties Plot the Course for Rural Activities in the Future

ACH county in Utah has organized, since January 1, an agricultural and home-economics planning committee of about an equal number of men and women representing youths and adults.

These committees consist of trained extension rural leaders representing all existing organizations in the county, such as farm bureaus, parent-teacher associations, better-homes clubs, beautification and home-economics clubs, public-health nurses, church organizations; and representatives of such agricultural commodities as sugar beets, wheat, poultry, and dairy.

In counties where travel tends toward one town, usually the county seat, a central committee of 10 to 40 people has been formed. In more inaccessible sections, the county has been districted or community committees called.

Duties of Committee

The purpose of this joint committee is to analyze, to survey, and to inventory all possible agricultural resources; to determine any future means of expansion or need for improved methods and practices; to bring together, as a joint earning and spending organization, the problems of agriculture and home economics; and to discern any opportunities for youth as a result of the analysis and judgment of this committee.

In every county a small working committee of five to seven men and women has been chosen from the larger group. They have been given the responsibility of cooperating with the extension agent and of grouping into long-time and immediate problems the suggestions of the larger committees.

In many instances, local and county problems which do not come within the scope of the Extension Service have been presented, as public safety at railroad crossings, organized marketing associations, and cooperative health insurance. Sub-committees have been recommended by the committee to study and present these problems, with their solutions, to mass or general meetings where final action will be taken.

Following a detailed study with further contacts and comments from the large

MYRTLE DAVIDSON

State Home Demonstration Leader
Utah

group, a report of the committee has been presented to the central representatives for acceptance and discussion, after which the problems involved have been incorporated into or have become the extension agents' long-time and 1937 program of work.

Two more central committee meetings will be held during this year to check on program progress and for result reports.

Inasmuch as the committees of men and women have been carefully chosen with the idea of permanence, they will meet near the close of the year to check results and to make recommendations for the future, based on this year's experience and constructive expressions from the country people. The extension economist and State home demonstration leader have been present at one or more of the meetings in every county.

The 1937 home-economics theme of "more satisfied, or better, rural family living by planned earning and spending cooperatively" combines the interests of the family and fits into the program plan.

The women in one county joined the seed identification classes because they recognized the part flower and vegetable gardens played in the noxious weed distribution.

Credit and security were made subjects for joint discussion in 10 counties. Discussions and surveys for availability of an adequate water supply with a conservative use of amounts now obtainable will be major problems with some groups.

Five family councils have begun as a result of joint program planning in another county.

Other interests which have closely correlated the home-economics and agricultural interests through county planning are the opportunities for youth; should mature people continue to farm at the expense of youth; the need for vocational training; 4-H projects as an aid to the family income; maximum use of earning organizations such as canning factories; and more freedom on the part of fathers with facts pertaining to the family income and expenditures.

Program planning has done much to develop a joint attitude in home and community needs, in cooperation and in the presentation of a true picture of resources and the future.

Farmers in Dade County, Fla., Organize Wholesale Cooperative Market

Farmers of Dade County, Fla., may well be proud of their wholesale cooperative market which they have operated successfully in Miami since January 6, 1936. Late in 1935 the Dade County Farmers' Cooperative Marketing Association, with a membership of 168 farmers, organized this unique market to sell their own produce.

This cooperative marketing association bought 17½ acres of land on two concrete highways and with railroad trackage. The association has rocked and oiled 5 acres of land, and has built a covered shed 550 feet long and 83 feet wide which provides shelter for 110 truck stalls. Space is also provided for 140 open stalls which will be covered later. At a cost of \$64,000 the association has constructed a large cement stucco office building with restaurant and toilet facilities, electric

lights, telegraph, telephone, and a large radio announcing speaker to contact anyone in the market.

During the first 4 months of this cooperative enterprise, \$1,600,000 worth of farm produce was sold at a cost of two-fifths of 1 percent for operating expenses. Ninety percent of the market produce was grown by the farmers of Dade County. Approximately 500 trucks patronized the market during this period. The opening day there were 98 commission trucks and 99 farmers' trucks at the market. By October the marketing association had an enrollment of 183 members, and the market had grown with the increase of 48 additional local farmers' trucks. A warehouse and cold storage and repacking facilities will be added to take care of the surplus produce.

The National Association of County Agricultural Agents

J. E. WHONSETLER

County Agent, Franklin County, Ohio
and Secretary, N. A. C. A. A.

BACK in 1916 a group of county agents attending the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago decided to federate their local county agents' associations into a national association. They felt that extension workers were poor exponents of their own organization teachings if they could not exemplify them by forming an organization of their own. The chief objectives as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the association were to foster mutual helpfulness among the members and to dedicate the national association to the advancement of agriculture. Annual meetings have been held regularly in Chicago during the week of the International Livestock Exposition.

From the Secretary

I am glad to welcome the group of county agents who are in Washington to study at first hand the Department of Agriculture. For the last 5 years we have worked together toward common goals. We have had some success and some disappointments, but we have pressed on. In working out a national agricultural program, your help and cooperation will continue to be indispensable.

I am interested in your program of work as outlined by the secretary of your association, J. E. Whonsetler, in the article on this page, but it is perhaps on the fifth point that I can be of most assistance to you. I hope that those of you who come to Washington will look around, ask questions, and find out just as much as you can about our organization, our problems, and our policies. The more we know about each other and the circumstances which condition our work, the better we can cooperate in developing an effective land-utilization and national agricultural program. We shall be glad to answer your questions and to hear of the progress you are making in your county.

H. A. WALLACE.

Officers of the National and member States have endeavored to form county agents' associations in every State in the Union and affiliate these groups with the National. The growth has been steady and consistent. Within the last few years, rapid progress has been made in the organization of new State associations. At present, all States in the Union except Arkansas, Arizona, California, Delaware, Maine, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Texas have reported that their State organizations have affiliated with the national association or desire to affiliate before the next annual meeting.

The program of work as outlined for 1937 consists of the following activities:

(1) Obtain definite action relative to legislation for obtaining the benefits of Federal retirement for county extension agents.

(2) Cooperate with the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture in planning a national county agents' tour and a program of professional improvement to be held in Washington in June.

(3) Continue the work of the professional improvement committee which has done much in the past to make available to county extension workers the same opportunities for educational advancement and study that are enjoyed by the members of the resident staff at the agricultural colleges.

(4) The executive committee was authorized to continue its relationship conferences with the national director of the Agricultural Extension Service and the heads of the various agricultural agencies in Washington.

(5) Cooperate with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in developing a land-utilization and national agricultural program.

It has been the chief purpose of the national association to make a profession out of county extension work by raising the standards and requirements of those engaged in this work. To accomplish this requires group action. County agents consider that such privileges as leave for advanced study and such benefits as State or Federal retirement for those who devote the best years of their lives to extension work are rewards to which they are justly entitled.

The following men have served as presidents of the association: E. B. Heaton, Illinois; C. N. Kennedy, Iowa; M. L. Moser, Illinois; J. W. Merrill, Iowa; Calvin Purdue, Indiana; K. A. Kirkpatrick, Minnesota; J. C. Hedge, Ohio; A. W. Palm, South Dakota; A. B. Bucholz, New York; R. L. Olds, Michigan; Morgan McKay, Utah; Earl Mayhew, Kentucky; J. E. Whonsetler, Ohio; R. S. Clough, Missouri; Ellwood Douglass, New Jersey; F. R. Kerrigan, Iowa; H. E. Abbott, Indiana; and Bright McConnell, Georgia.

From the Director of Extension Work

To the county agents assembled in Washington from June 8 to 10 to attend the annual meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents—*Greetings!*

We in Washington frequently visit the counties to learn at first hand how the agents are meeting local problems. It is a privilege and a pleasure when you drop in for a friendly return call.

There is much to be learned by all of us from this visit. You bring to us a fine grasp of local problems, of successes and failures in adapting national and regional programs to conditions in your counties, a sympathetic understanding of the farmer and of rural life.

We hope that in return you will carry back a fresh view of national problems, policies, and objectives for developing agriculture along broad, sound, and basic lines.

We believe that both of us will gain from this meeting a deeper understanding of our mutual problems, that the interchange of ideas will be helpful in charting a better course of action, and that we shall be able to utilize to greater advantage the opportunity that lies ahead for extension work to be of service to the farmers and the national welfare.

C. W. WARBURTON.

Massachusetts 4-H Clubs

Encourage Homecrafts in

A Venture in Talent

"**4-H** CLUBS in Massachusetts undertook a new venture this year—the production of homecraft articles. It is an individual sort of project that depends upon finding and encouraging talent among club members. Indications are already pointing to success, and homecraft is making a strong bid for recognition as a permanent phase of 4-H club work," says J. W. Burke, Massachusetts extension editor.

The ground work for this new project was laid many months ago, but it was not until this year's Eastern States Exposition that the public learned of the movement. Visitors to the 4-H building on the exposition grounds came across a new booth filled with colorful gifts made by club members. The booth was tended by girls in cool green uniforms.

Gifts Skillfully Made

Nor were these gifts mere amateur attempts at handkerchief decoration or souvenir making. Anyone with an eye could see that care, skill, and good taste had been combined in their making, and the results were evident in the way this home-made merchandise sold.

Marion E. Forbes, assistant State club leader, was in charge of the booth, and to her goes much of the credit for the initiation of the homecraft project. "For a long time I've had this idea in the back of my mind," she explained. "When Mr. Farley, the State club leader, suggested a Massachusetts gift booth for the exposition, I immediately pictured various boys and girls scattered throughout the State who have ability for doing excellent work with their hands. I have often thought that, if there were some way to give these boys and girls a little encouragement and guidance, many of them would make some very beautiful things. And, of course, many of them need money too. Their chief handicap has been in finding a market for their products. And so this gift-booth idea just grew. From our experience this

year we should be able to give advice to other club members who wish to make articles for sale and also to clubs which have 4-H Christmas sales."

About 50 club members sent their handiwork in to start the venture. In looking over the gift booth, one was impressed with three things: the usefulness of the objects, the gay color schemes, and the excellence of the workmanship. Somehow the boys and girls managed to avoid the knickknack and bric-a-brac type of gift and made only articles useful in the home. One suspects that this is a result of their careful training in club work where every project is of the useful sort, like calf raising, homemaking, and gardening. In the whole booth it was hard to find anything that was merely ornamental unless it was the colorful twisted gourds.

That doesn't mean that their work lacked style or color—far from it. The whole place radiated warm colors, from the Russian breakfast sets to the yellow chickens that served as curtain pulls.

A few months before the exposition, Miss Forbes had the 4-H members send in samples of their craft work. Each piece was examined by a committee of judges, and their suggestions for improvement were noted. The material, the workmanship, the color scheme, the decoration and design, in fact everything about the object was freely criticized. Then the judges' suggestions were discussed with the club members, and improved products were made. These revamped samples were kept as working models, and each object that was turned out was made to conform to the original that had met with the approval of the judges. Thus, only the club members' best efforts were accepted for the gift booth.

Miss Forbes was asked what she felt the gift booth would accomplish. "Well, it should do several things", she said. "Having these gifts on display has made a large share of the public conscious of this new phase of 4-H club work. Each gift was accompanied by a tag bearing

the 4-H pledge and the member's name and address, and tucked into each wrapper was a statement of the purpose of club work.

"Then too, the booth has helped to encourage some club members to carry on with their craft work. This sort of thing cannot be organized on a group basis in every community, for not every child has the knack of turning out beautiful things. But here and there we find a boy or a girl who has outstanding ability. When we do we want to help that boy or that girl to make the most of this talent. The gift booth has done this by giving them recognition. It has helped them to find interested customers for their products."

According to Miss Forbes, two of the most popular articles were the gourds and the butternut buttons. Fancy pins made of yarn also sold rapidly, and new supplies of all these articles had to be brought in during the week. Another member whose articles sold well was a blind 4-H girl who made leather belts, purses, and key cases.

A County Text

"Know Ross County" is the title of a mimeographed booklet by Fred R. Keeler, county agricultural agent of Ross County, Ohio.

"The purpose of 'Know Ross County'", according to Mr. Keeler, "is to provide a background for soil study and soil conservation in the county." He says, "Rural boys and girls should have a fundamental agricultural background, and without such, progress with adults will always be slow. If our young people have more training along this line now, then when they become farmers we can push forward more rapidly."

The booklet consists of 34 illustrated mimeographed pages and a colored cover illustrated with a map of Ross County. It contains a popular discussion of the geology of Ross County and the effect of geology on the county's soil formation, drainage, and productivity.

The author's interest in and knowledge of geology and his enthusiasm for improving the agricultural opportunities of future Ross County farmers were, perhaps, the stimuli necessary to enable Mr. Keeler to find the time necessary to prepare the booklet.

It has been accepted by the Ross County school authorities and is being used in the junior science course in all rural high schools of the county. The work was distributed through the office of the superintendent of county schools to about 600 boys and girls.

About Farm Tenancy

MANY people are talking about farm tenancy these days. Census figures show an increase; the President appoints a committee to investigate; Congress considers the problem; and discussion groups at the crossroads are talking it over.

Report of the President's Committee

The President's committee included 41 members who represented practically all groups interested in any phase of the tenancy problem. There were landlords, educators, farm-organization men, members of the farm press, missionaries, economists, farm tenants, farm laborers, and others. The land-grant colleges were represented by A. R. Mann, provost, Cornell University; W. H. Brokaw, director of the Nebraska Extension Service; and Lowry Nelson, director of the Utah Experiment Station. The chairman was Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture.

Regional Hearings Held

To supplement the information available in the group and from printed reports, the committee held five regional hearings on tenancy and heard anyone who had something to contribute to the study of the problem. The findings and recommendations were prepared under the auspices of the National Resources Committee.

Farm Security Administration

The report recommends the establishment of a Farm Security Administration under the United States Department of Agriculture with a Farm Security Corporation affiliated therewith as a legal instrument. This joint agency would be empowered to purchase and improve farms to be sold to farmers who demonstrate their integrity, industry, and capacity for ownership. Purchase of these farms would be financed over a 40-year period, but farmers may pay off their indebtedness in 20 years if able to do so.

Additional Financing Needed

It is estimated that one and one-third million tenant and cropper families urgently require some form of additional financial assistance. "First essentials in

In many States special extension work is carried on with tenants with the cooperation of the landlords, and many excellent results have been achieved. The President's committee places special emphasis on the need for education among groups of "disadvantaged farm workers who find themselves in their present situation as much through ignorance as poverty or instability."



A Tennessee Negro tenant has added many conveniences and improvements to the house since the wife joined a home demonstration club. (Above) A Texas tenant woman learns to build and fill a pantry which gives healthful food to her family every day of the year.

extending this type of credit", reads the report, "are that the entire farm enterprise be considered as a unit; that the credit granted fit into a specific farm-management program; and that the farmer and his family be given technical guidance."

Education Is Necessary

Special emphasis is given to the need for education among these groups of "disadvantaged farm workers" who find themselves in their present situation as much through ignorance as poverty or instability. The committee feels that they could go far toward improving their lot if they could be taught to improve their homes, schools, and communities by repairing, cleaning, and decorating rooms and buildings; repairing and making furniture and equipment; planting public

grounds and home dooryards; and properly selecting, preparing, and serving home-produced food.

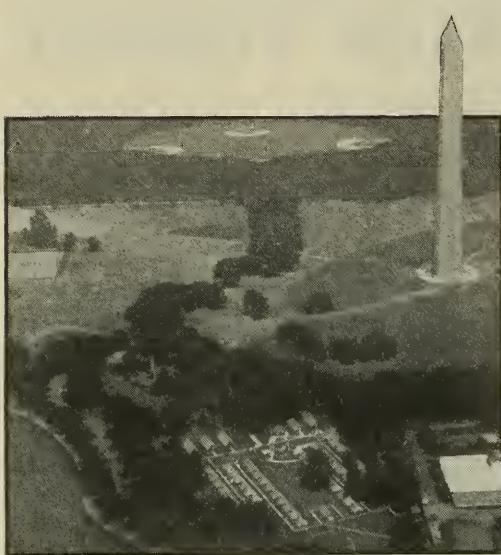
The committee "strongly recommends that the rural educational systems of the various States be more definitely aimed at providing the kind of training needed by adult members of disadvantaged farm families as well as children."

To Improve Lease Contracts

The States are urged to introduce security of tenure into present landlord-tenant relationships. Ten suggestions are given for improvement of lease contracts. "It is recommended that State agencies, particularly the Agricultural Extension Service, cooperating with State and local representatives of the Farm

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The National 4-H Camp, Just 10 Years Old, Typifies



The 4-H Role in Rural Progress

GEORGE E. FARRELL

Director of the National 4-H Club
Camp

THIS summer, as in every summer since 1927, the National 4-H Club Camp, held annually at Washington, D. C., will be the big thing in the lives of several hundred 4-H club boys and girls brought to the Nation's capital from all sections of the country.

For the boys and girls coming here this month, the week of camp life, sightseeing, recreation, and observation at close hand of our Federal Government at work will be the same thrilling, inspirational, educational event that the 10 previous camps have been to those young folks who attended them. To the State 4-H club leaders who come along with them it will be the beginning of the second decade of a picturesque and vital phase of 4-H club work.

1937 Presents New Problems

In States that have sent delegations of their club boys and girls and their leaders annually since 1927, the 1937 camp is the eleventh annual camp. With some exceptions the same State leaders are in charge. Quite a few of these leaders are graying—in middle age or beyond. And the realization dawns on us that the National 4-H Camp, the healthy youngster fondled and fostered 10 years ago, is entering the adolescent age and presenting new problems for us to solve.

As we look forward to the second 10 years of the National 4-H Club Camp, we cannot appraise its past accomplishments, or make suggestions for charting its course in the years ahead, without some thought about the role 4-H club

work has played, now plays, and should continue to play in the progress of rural education and in the onward march of American country life.

More and more we are coming to realize that there is no aristocracy except the aristocracy of achievement. The training we are giving our rural youth in 4-H club work is training in—and for—achievement. The boys and girls in our 4-H clubs have an incentive to fit themselves better into their surroundings and their times. They know that they can accomplish things through learning and practical effort. They are learning painlessly the lesson which all agriculture has had to learn painfully in the last few years, namely, that it is not by outdoing the other fellow but rather by working, or cooperating, with him that the most is accomplished for everyone.

Camp Shows Potentialities of Youth

In accomplishing these ends, the National Club Camp has given a better understanding of the problems of rural youth and has unified the thinking of the State leadership. It has concentrated the attention of agricultural leaders on the potentialities of rural youth in agricultural progress. Relying on the venturesome spirit of youth and on its willingness to tackle new ideas and new slants on the old ones, leaders have turned to 4-H clubs as another group to reach in teaching the new things and better ways to parents and the community.

With the experience of 10 annual camps behind us, we may begin to ask ourselves some questions in regard to them.

What do Campers Take Home?

What do the boys and girls who come to the National 4-H Camp take home from these annual meetings—for themselves and for the thousands of other fellow club workers at home?

So far as the individuals who attend the camps are concerned, there is no doubt that the opportunity to come to the national camp leaves a definite influence.

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Minnesota National 4-H Campers Go Back to the Farm



HERE'S no problem of "keeping them down on the farm" when it comes to Minnesota's 4-H club boys and girls. The extensive 4-H club program, which last year embraced 42,420 Minnesota boys and girls, under the competent guiding hand of the veteran State club leader, T. A. Erickson, has many activities that keep present and former club members interested in agriculture and related fields.

Not the least of these activities by any means has been the National 4-H Club Camp to which, during the past decade, Minnesota has sent 40 of her 4-H club members to carry the State's banner at the club assembly with other boys and girls who have shown outstanding achievement and ability in club work. To discover what these 40 club people are doing at present, to ascertain whether they are drawn to other lines of work or whether they have felt the pull of the National Club Camp and other 4-H influences, one merely has to go through the roll to find that by far the great majority of them are in the business of farming or are occupied in fields which are directly connected with agriculture.

When asked, "Are the 4-H club members who make outstanding records making use of the information and enthusiasm gained in their 4-H project work by staying on the farm, or are they going into other lines of work?" Mr. Erickson clinched his statement that they are remaining on the farm by showing just exactly what these 40 club leaders who attended National Club Camp are doing.

Said Mr. Erickson, "In order to answer this question, with one special group in

Minnesota, I have looked up each one of the 40 young people who have represented Minnesota at the 10 annual National 4-H Camps at Washington, D. C. Twenty-two, or 55 percent, are definitely located on farms. Of these 22, 10 are married and have begun ideal rural homes of their own; 7 are working on a partnership basis with their parents in developing fine herds of livestock, in operating good farms, and in making their homes better places in which to live. Of the other five, two are herdsmen on large stock farms, and the other three are still on their home farms.

"Four of the other 18 Minnesota delegates at Washington camp are agricultural extension agents in the State. Two are teaching home economics in high schools; three are teaching rural schools in their home communities; four are in educational commercial work connected with agriculture or home activities; two are attending the College of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota, and the remaining two are married to businessmen living in their home towns."

With 22 actually engaged in farming, and 16 others occupied in phases of work aimed directly at better farms and farm homes, only 2, or 5 percent of the total, are not connected in some way with agriculture.

Let's look into a few special cases to see what use these people are making of information and inspiration received in club work.

In 1927, Alice Landro, now Mrs. Frank Sherffenberg of Hendrum, Minn., was chosen to go to the national camp. She had

been a club leader for 8 years and had much experience in bread and livestock projects. She was president of the Norman County Dairy Club and for several years had practically complete charge of all club work in the county. She was the first Minnesota girl to win a place on a national judging team—a team which represented Minnesota at the National Dairy Show in 1925. Then romance entered her life when she met Frank Sherffenberg, a 4-H club boy from St. Cloud, Stearns County, at the National Dairy Show at Indianapolis, Ind., in 1924, where both were delegates from Minnesota. Both attended school at the University of Minnesota, and in 1929 they were married. Today they are leaders in their community activities. They have built up a fine dairy herd, have purchased a farm, and on it are making an ideal rural home for their four children.

Arvid Sponberg, also of the group that attended the 1927 camp, paid his way through the 3-year course of the Minnesota School of Agriculture with the receipts of his club livestock projects. Then he went into the business of farming with his father. Later, he married a former 4-H club girl and lives on a farm that he purchased near New Richland, Waseca County, in the southern part of the State. He specializes in swine breeding but also raises cattle. Carrying on with his community activities, Arvid was for several years a county 4-H club leader. He is now financial secretary of his home church, directs the annual New Richland dairy

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A. A. A. Looks Ahead

Ten Counties Experiment in Fitting National and Regional Programs to Local Conservation Pattern

RALPH H. ROGERS

Division of Program Planning, A. A. A.

DURING the summer of 1936 it was proposed that in selected counties agricultural-conservation programs based on results of the county agricultural adjustment planning project be put into operation in 1937, provided that such programs conformed to the general provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1936. This proposal was designed to give wider latitude to cooperating farmers in fitting the national and regional programs more closely to local conservation needs. It was to provide both experiments and demonstrations in this respect.

At that time about 2,400 county committees of farmers had submitted preliminary recommendations as to what the local agricultural land-use pattern should be in order to control erosion and maintain soil fertility. It was anticipated that a maximum of 25 representative counties could refine their recommendations sufficiently to develop action programs for 1937 by which they could approach their recommendations or "goals" more effectively than would be possible under the regional program.

Although the national program for 1937 was announced much earlier in the season than previously, the time needed to develop special county programs was so short that the idea of working toward county goals had to be modified. As a result, we now have experimental programs designed for 10 counties located in 8 different States. Steps have already been taken, however, to develop programs for 1938 which will be even more closely related to the soil-conservation and land-use goals now being determined by the county planning committees. Counties selected for experimental programs in 1938 will be typical of the more important type-of-farming areas. Because of the detailed work that will be involved, only a limited number of such counties can be selected.

The following is a list of the counties now operating under special programs in 1937:

1. *Kemper County, Miss.*, has erosion problems which are common to much of the hill country of the South. This special program emphasizes terracing as the basis for a soil-conservation plan. Diverted acres must be matched with soil-conserving crops or terracing done in 1937. Soil-building practices and practice payments have been designed to meet local needs.

2. *Pulaski County, Ark.*, has designed a program that is divided into two parts. One combines the class I and class II payments into a cotton-diversion payment where the acreage diverted from cotton must be matched with soil-conserving crops. The other part emphasizes practices designed to control erosion and does not involve diversion.

3. *Guilford County, N. C.*, which is typical of the Piedmont area, has a program which provides for a farm allowance and individual farm plans for establishing crop rotations and encouraging soil-building practices.

4. *Kent County, Md.*, has developed a plan similar to the Guilford County program, in that separate farm plans are to be worked out by the county committeemen and the cooperating farmer. Deductions will be made from the maximum farm allowance for failure to carry out all of the details called for in each farm plan.

5. *White County, Tenn.*, includes in its program the regular cotton- and tobacco-diversion features of the regional program, but growers may elect to earn all of their available payments by carrying out specified practices rather than diverting from soil-depleting bases.

6. *Johnson County, Tenn.*, eliminates diversion from the program, except for a limited acreage that may be diverted from tobacco, and all payments will be made for carrying out soil-building practices. This is a mountainous county, typical of the Appalachian region, where diversion on the usual small farm is not generally desirable.

7. *Tama County, Iowa*, has inaugurated a program that calls for individual farm plans designed to meet the recommendations of local leaders. These recommendations were based to a large extent upon plans developed under the county planning project.

8. *Weber and Davis Counties, Utah*. In these two counties, near Salt Lake City, an additional practice has been approved to control the use of water for irrigation purposes in the interest of both soil and water conservation.

9. *Pondera County, Mont.* This county will combine payments so that soil-building practices will be encouraged. Diversion will be classified as an approved practice. A farmer will be able to earn payments by diverting soil-depleting acreage to soil-conserving crops, but may also earn his entire allowance by following specified soil-building practices if he so desires.

Minnesota National 4-H Campers Go Back to the Farm

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days, and has been a member of the county agricultural conservation program committee.

Coming to more recent 4-H camp delegates, we find Adrian Ries who attended the camp in 1935. He was 20 years old when he went to camp and lives at Rollingstone in Winona County. During his 11 years of club work he distinguished himself in dairy-cattle projects and dairy-judging work. With his brother, Joseph, he manages the home farm, his father having died several years ago. The two boys have developed an excellent herd of purebred Brown Swiss cattle.

If this group of 40 young people who have attended the National 4-H Club Camp during its 10 years of existence can be considered a criterion, it is safe to say that Minnesota 4-H club members are making good use of their club experiences and training in the rural communities.

Extension Folk Worth Knowing

Bill Baker . . .

County Agent and Archeologist

A QUIET, unassuming county agricultural agent from Cimarron County in the west end of the Oklahoma Panhandle came East, and even blasé old Washington outdid itself in paying him homage, for Bill Baker in his off hours is a noted archeologist.

He was on his way home after attending the Symposium of Early Man, held on the twenty-sixth anniversary meeting of the American Academy of Science at Philadelphia where he had exhibited 195 rare specimens of antique Indian relics—all picked up in Cimarron County. Dr. E. B. Howard, a noted scientist, calls it the best collection of its kind for study in the United States, but Bill cautiously suggests that it be written "one of the best."

Secretary Wallace, Under Secretary M. L. Wilson (he is something of an authority on Indian lore), scientists from the Smithsonian Institution, Associated Press writers, and others were interviewing the noted archeologist, but he sandwiched in a few minutes to tell his fellow county agents how he happened to get started on his hobby and how he finds it very useful in his work.

First, he wanted to tell about Cimarron County where, evidently, extension work has been no cinch. Hard times have dogged the footsteps of the farmers. Bill keeps the weather records and has the evidence to prove that precipitation in the last 3 years has been less than half of normal. Situated in the midst of the dust bowl, the county took advantage of the

Meet Bill Baker, county agricultural agent of Cimarron County, Okla., whose collection of relics of prehistoric life in America has attracted the interest of eminent archeologists.

emergency wind-erosion campaign to list almost 260,000 acres. As if they did not have troubles enough, the grasshoppers arrived and kept the county agent, his assistant, and the rural rehabilitation supervisor busy mixing and distributing 2,535 sacks of poison bran and sawdust. Bill is heart and soul with the conservation program, and he obtained active support from the county on the corn-hog and wheat programs. Emergency feed and seed loans and W. P. A. applications were handled through his office. "All in all", he says proudly, "\$910,050 passed through the office for farmers of Cimarron County in the year 1936 alone, and this money has made it possible for our people to stay on their farms."

With all his urgent emergency work, he has still found time to get some irrigation demonstrations under way and to encourage 4-H club work among 130 boys in the county.

"The 4-H club boys will sit spellbound for hours when I talk to them about the relics that they can find on their own farms. I tell them that when I pick up

"Is anyone less the master of his time than the county agent? Where shall he flee for refuge to compose his soul and to catch some fragment of enthusiasm and originality?" asked an extension agent not long ago. With the many new responsibilities of agents, this is a pertinent inquiry. Yet Bill Baker has solved the problem to his own satisfaction. His story is an inspiration to all of us.



an arrowhead I think of the airplane, for before me I see man's first inventive ability and development of mechanical skill, resulting in all of our machinery of the present age. When I see the picture writing on the stone walls, I see all over the county libraries which are the result of man's first attempt to convey his thoughts in written characters to his fellowmen; and I love that man who first tried to put down a written language." The boys of the county have collected literally thousands of arrowheads, spear heads, and other prehistoric relics which they mount in a professional manner in a frame on cotton covered with a glass and properly documented.

When Bill first came to the county 15 years ago, he used to go out with the farmers to observe the bad wind erosion taking place on some of the fields. Sometimes he noticed arrowheads and such things blown out by the wind. He picked them up and took them home, as they sort of interested him. Then, because he "always was curious", he got some books to find out a little about them and sometimes even went back on Sunday to the places that seemed to show a good many old implements. He has found and now has in his collection more than 10,000 arrow points, spear points, knives, scrapers, drills, and other flint artifacts.

"My greatest interest in my hobby was awakened when the Folsom find was made in Union County, N. Mex., about 100 miles west of us in 1926", he continued. "This proved that there were antique

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Creative Supervision . . .

C. B. SMITH

Assistant Director, Extension Service

DURING the early years of Extension, State leaders and assistant State leaders devoted their efforts largely to arousing interest on the part of the people of a county in employing an extension agent, organizing the county for that purpose, financing the work, selecting the agent, and helping him or her to become established in the county. When the preliminary organization of counties to employ agents was largely completed, the State supervisors of county workers began to devote more attention to those supervisory functions and activities which are more closely related to the improvement of extension teaching.

During the depression it again became necessary in many States for the State leaders to give a large amount of attention to the maintenance of financial cooperation on the part of county governments. Since 1933 many members of the State supervisory staff have also been responsible for the State administration of various Federal emergency programs and of necessity have greatly reduced the proportion of their time spent on the improvement of extension teaching. With special personnel developed to care for the various Federal emergency programs under way in the State, the State leaders and assistant leaders of county workers are again back on the supervisory job. The accumulation of problems needing supervisory attention, together with the increase in size of the county teaching staff makes the job an unusually important one at this time.

It may be well, therefore, to review briefly the functions of supervisors of county extension work and what creative supervision may be expected to accomplish.

Broadly speaking, the functions of supervisors can be grouped under three headings: (1) Inspection, (2) research or study, and (3) training and guidance.

1. Through *inspection* the supervisory agent is able to diagnose conditions and discover problems which press for solution. Careful observation is essential if the supervisor is to thoroughly under-

stand the conditions under which the agent works and the possibilities of improvement. Extension supervision should be definite and purposeful.

2. By extension *research or study* is meant a systematic, critical investigation to ascertain facts or principles underlying the conduct of extension teaching. Educational research is a creative function, as true progress comes through knowledge of facts scientifically obtained. The past 15 years have witnessed a remarkable growth in research departments connected with city school systems. Research in the field of extension education is an even newer development, and it is doubtful if extension supervisors generally fully appreciate the importance of extension research to the growth and development of extension teaching as a truly scientific profession. A professional spirit on the part of those engaged in supervisory activities will do much to encourage a similar spirit on the part of those supervised.

3. *Training and guidance* help to keep the county extension personnel informed and practiced in the best extension procedures and to insure the successful application of the better teaching methods evolved through extension research. Annual extension conferences and other group meetings of county workers, personal visits to counties to confer with agents on individual problems, distribution of outlines, furnishing teaching materials, helping to diagnose difficulties and apply remedies, and appraisal of results are some of the major ways in which extension supervisors discharge this important function.

Expressed in slightly different terms, creative supervision of extension work accomplishes:

1. Proper induction of agents into service, which includes a thorough understanding on the part of agents of the objectives to be reached, the procedures to be followed, and the standards of accomplishment to be attained.

2. Seeking out strong and weak points of agents supervised; building on strong points; and helping to correct weak points, depending on individual capacities of agents.

3. Recognition of good extension procedures and their interpretation as sound teaching principles.

4. Promoting application of results of extension research to practical conduct of county work.

5. Obtaining recognition of extension teaching as a scientific profession.

6. Stimulating some professional growth by all agents and much growth by most capable agents.

Improvement in extension teaching is quite largely a matter of scientific supervision. The extension supervisor is primarily concerned with the improvement of the agents under his charge and, through them, with the improvement of farm, home, and community progress.

Bill Baker . . . County Agent and Archeologist

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relies in this part of the country which did not belong to the Indians who lived 3,000 or 4,000 years ago, as we had supposed, but, to the best of our knowledge, to Indians who lived here in the late Pleistocene Age, about 10,000 to 12,000 years ago. I was interested and in 1928 decided to look for these antique artifacts in my own territory; and, though it was more luck than planning, I found specimens the second time I went looking for them. I now have more than 500 of these antique specimens showing the most wonderful and beautiful flint-working through the ages, including spear heads, scrapers, and other implements."

Many famous archeologists come to see Mr. Baker at Boise City. They come from Massachusetts, Philadelphia, Denver, Los Angeles, and other places, for they have heard of his rare collection. He is a member of the American Anthropological Association and the Oklahoma Academy of Science. The meeting of the National Academy gave him a chance to meet archeologists from every part of the world and to make drawings of the pieces from the different countries which he thought might be related to his pieces.

He enjoys the contacts his hobby has given him; he enjoys looking for his artifacts on the wind-swept lands of Cimarron County, but, most of all, he enjoys the confidence which his study of the habits of mankind through the ages has given him in the future of civilization and in the future of Cimarron County. It has given him the certainty that man climbed ever upward and that his efforts to improve his lot are not lost, for, in the long run, humanity is advancing.

About Farm Tenancy

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Security Administration, inaugurate vigorous programs to inform landlords and tenants concerning methods of improving farm leases; and that the State agricultural experiment stations adequately support research work to adapt leases to various types of farming areas.

"State agricultural research and extension services could be helpful in providing groups of tenants, as well as other farm operators, with the benefit of intensive technical aid on the payment-for-service basis successfully pioneered at the University of Illinois. In many areas, such a program could be set up and paid for by cooperating groups of tenants, but in other areas it might not be within reach of poorer tenants unless the service is subsidized."

The report strongly urges that the States guarantee and enforce the civil rights of groups of tenants and farm laborers who have organized for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Census Discloses Some Facts

A keen public interest in methods of ameliorating social and economic conditions which accompany farm tenancy has prompted the Bureau of the Census to assemble a summary of farm-tenure data from the 1935 census in a special report recently released.

The Census Bureau points out that although tenants operated 42.1 percent of all farms in the United States on January 1, 1935, as compared with 42.4 percent on April 1, 1930, declines in proportion of tenants among the States were registered only in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. In other words, gains in tenancy were recorded in all States outside of the South. Considering the 32 States located outside of the South as a group, the proportion of farms operated by tenants rose from 28.5 percent in 1930 to 30.5 percent in 1935.

Census figures show that farm tenancy is most prevalent in the three geographic divisions comprising the South, though it is also of considerable importance in the west north central division. Among the States, the percentages for 1935 ranged from highs of 69.8 in Mississippi and 65.6 in Georgia to lows of 6.2 in Massachusetts and 6.9 in Maine.

One of the influences which has made farm tenancy a difficult and important problem in so many areas is the insecurity

of the tenant. A special report on "Period of Farm Occupancy" makes a comparison between owners and tenants in their length of tenure on the farm they were operating on the census date and brings out the fact that one of every six farmer operators in the United States had operated the farms on which they lived less than 1 year.

Michigan Talks It Over

Farm-tenancy round-table discussion, first of its kind ever held in Michigan, brought together landlords, tenants, county agricultural agents, and organization representatives to the State college at East Lansing on February 23.

Each of the persons attending the conference was given an opportunity to offer suggestions and problems. From these comments C. V. Ballard, county agricultural agent, summarized the Michigan situation, in collaboration with E. L. Anthony, dean of agriculture, E. B. Hill, head of the farm management department, and Lawrence O'Neil, representing the State department of agriculture.

"Independence of ownership is leading many tenants to seek farm ownership.

"Fear of lack of security is keeping many of these same tenants from actual purchase of farms.

"Conservation of fertility on a rented farm depends upon the relationship between tenant and farmer, whether it is a year-to-year basis or whether each seeks a more permanent relationship which will benefit each financially as well as maintain the value of the farm.

"Landlords should select tenants with the ability to manage, because tenants, especially when capable, resent orders from the landlord-manager type of owner.

"Better credit facilities should prevail to encourage and facilitate farm purchases, or at least farm improvements, by capable men now tenants."

Reason for the conference on farm tenancy was the discovery that for 10 years farm tenancy has been on the increase in Michigan. At present nearly one-fifth of the farmers in the State are tenants, although in 1925 there was only one in seven. More than 1 acre of farm land out of 4 acres is tenant operated, whereas in 1925 about 23 acres out of every 100 were tenant farmed.

Tenancy in the State, estimated in the 1935 census at 19 percent, still is far below the percentage prevailing in many States.

Crop Insurance on Wheat

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As to the present status of the insurance legislation, Senator Pope's bill (S. 1397), after hearings in committee and short debate, was passed by the Senate on March 30.

This measure would create within the Department of Agriculture a Federal Crop Insurance Corporation with a capital of \$100,000,000. The management of this corporation will be vested in a board of three directors subject to the general supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture.

This corporation is authorized and empowered "commencing with the wheat planted for harvest in 1938 to insure producers of wheat against loss in yields of wheat due to unavoidable causes, including drought, flood, hail, wind, winter-kill, lightning, tornado, insect infestation, plant diseases, and such other unavoidable causes as may be determined by the Board. Such insurance shall not cover losses due to the neglect or malfeasance of the producer.

"Such insurance shall cover a percentage to be determined by the Board of the recorded or appraised average yield of wheat on the insured farm for a representative base period, subject to such adjustments as the Board may prescribe to the end that the average yields fixed for farms in the same area which are subject to the same conditions may be fair and just.

"The Board may condition the issuance of such insurance in any county or area upon a minimum amount of participation in a program of crop insurance formulated pursuant to this act."

In other words, the corporation set up under this law can go ahead with a comprehensive insurance plan on wheat next year, fix premiums, adjust and pay claims for losses either in wheat or its cash equivalent. The administration and overhead expense will be paid by the Government. It is contemplated that in the long run the local expenses will be borne by the insured farmers.

The 4-H Role in Rural Progress

(Continued from p. 88)

Club members coming to the camp are in the most impressionable years of their lives, and the impressions they receive at this age play an important part in shaping their future and the future of their young friends and fellow workers. The individual who makes the trip benefits immensely from all he sees and hears.

But, more important than this, as these boys and girls from many different States and sections come together to spend a week at work and play, they are absorbing a new outlook which is most important from a standpoint of national understanding among the farming population of all sections of the country.

Furnishes Common Meeting Ground

The National Club Camp provides a common meeting ground for rural youth and an exchange of ideas of rural young people from all over the Nation. Boys and girls coming from Eastern, Southern, Western, and Central States find sectional differences are small and not really important, whereas the similarities and common problems are many. As the week progresses there develops a feeling of unity and solidarity in the whole 4-H club movement.

This is the immediate message which they take home to their clubs and to the farm folks of their respective States. This is the foundation upon which they build their future club work and the foundation on which they may build a later appreciation for the need of solidarity in the quest for higher rural standards.

A large number of the young people who have attended the National 4-H Club Camps in the last 10 years have gone into extension work and other work connected with the various new farm programs undertaken in recent years and now in progress. It is my firm belief that the annual 4-H club camps came just in time to make a worth-while contribution to agriculture in its time of greatest need. Back in 1927, when the great national depression had not yet fallen upon us, the national camp helped the 4-H club movement to become more firmly established.

Some of the youths who came to the National 4-H Camp in the late 20's and a few 4-H club members of 10 and 15 years ago had become county agents by 1933. Others became emergency assistants during the wheat, cotton, and corn-hog campaigns. Their experience in leadership had much to do with getting

these programs under way almost overnight. Had it not been for the training received by thousands of the 4-H boys and girls who by 1932 had become full-fledged farmers or the chief reliance of their fathers on the farm, many of the agricultural programs of the emergency years would have been slowed down.

New Problems More Complex

As compared to 10 years ago, the present times offer a large number of problems for discussion, whether in community meetings, high schools, State legislatures, or national meetings. As these debates are waged in the little red schoolhouse or before national radio audiences, the question which appears to be fundamental is whether the solution of social and economic problems shall be accomplished through local, State, or national effort, or a combination of all three.

Agriculture is fast giving the answer, namely, that the only solution is through the combination of all three. Leadership and ideas must come from the ground up, but community, State, and national problems are so interwoven that they can be solved only through mutual and general effort. This has been the trend in the national agricultural programs of the last 5 years. And the way in which farm policies and programs have recently been and now are being developed through leadership emanating in the rural community and county and carried through to the State and National Governments, bears a striking resemblance to the method followed in the organization of 4-H club work from the local club meetings to the national camp gatherings.

Future Role of 4-H Camp

And so, as we face the future, always indefinite and uncertain, we want to be sure that the National 4-H Club Camp, together with 4-H club work generally and rural education as a whole, can be adapted constantly to fit the needs and conditions of those folks they are intended to benefit.

In the years ahead, the opportunity to enter extension work or become officially connected with the farm programs may not be so plentiful for the young men and women just emerging from club work, but a greater opportunity awaits them. Agriculture and agricultural communities need leaders. They will be needing them far more than ever before. The 4-H

club boy and girl who stays in his or her home community and takes an active part in introducing new and better ideas and practices will be among the outstanding leaders of the future. It is for such leadership that 4-H club members must be trained. It is leadership in a new era—an era of economic democracy in which community, county, State, and Nation will be knit together in the common purpose of solving social and economic problems in a democratic way. That era has been in the making for the last several years.

Evidences of its presence are growing stronger every day. And with its growth is strengthened the vision of the youth who believes in the four H's of health, heart, head, and hand.

THREE counties in Texas—Angelina, Austin, and Brazoria—recently made appropriations for Negro county agricultural agents. Austin County also put on a Negro home demonstration agent. These counties have had white county agricultural and home demonstration agents for a number of years, but these are the first Negro agents to be appointed in the three counties.

What Is the Extension Job?

(Continued from p. 81)

Those Who Do the Job

The statement that people are more important than projects applies to extension workers as well as to farm people. Programs cannot be effective unless the right kind of personnel is on hand to put them into effect. Extension workers, perhaps more than those in other fields, must be the right people for the job. We must have extension workers with natural ability supplemented by technical training and experience, and then we must provide opportunities for professional improvement whenever possible.

Qualifications of extension workers, because of the nature of their work, presupposes leadership. But leadership is dependent upon a number of things and must be supplemented by integrity, the ability to inspire confidence, enthusiasm, initiative, farsightedness, and, perhaps most important of all, a sympathetic understanding of farm people.

Busy on the Range



Two of the two hundred reservoirs built on ranches in Campbell County, Wyo., in less than 4 months to qualify for the A. A. A. range payments and add permanent value to the range.

WHEN the "go" sign was finally given on the range conservation program September 9, Floyd E. Dominy, agricultural agent in Campbell County, Wyo., started an aggressive campaign, not only to get a large number of his stockmen to sign up and qualify for the payments, but to do something that would help to relieve the prevailing urgent drought situation and be of permanent value to their ranges. He held the usual series of educational meetings in the different sections of the county and called in person upon large stockmen here and there to explain to them how they could effect the needed developments about their ranches that they had been unable to make because of a lack of money. Although less than 4 months remained before the dead-line date for qualifying for payment, Mr. Dominy got results. Three hundred of his four hundred and twelve ranchmen, for whom grazing capacities were established, qualified for some payment.

Two hundred and thirty acres of grassland were contoured, 200 springs were developed, 200 reservoirs to provide stock water were constructed, 3,500 rods of fence were built, and 50 wells were drilled.

Colorado Chooses the

Master Home Demonstration Club

A FEELING of pride was evident in the group of 300 women assembled in Denver in January for the sixth annual meeting of the Colorado Association of Home Demonstration Clubs. There was special significance to the meeting this year, for the name of the club winning the honor of State master home demonstration club was to be announced.

For those who do not know just what constitutes a master home demonstration club it may be stated that it is a home demonstration club which has met the work requirements of home demonstration clubs in Colorado and which, in addition, has to its credit other worthwhile accomplishments. In Colorado all regularly organized clubs of rural women sponsored by the Extension Service carry two projects each year in some phase of home economics.

Many of these individual clubs have been extremely active in both home and community work, and it has been felt that

some sort of recognition should be given to those clubs whose work has been outstanding.

To further such an idea, a movement was started in Colorado in March 1936 to select a master home demonstration club. The purposes of the movement are: (1) To stimulate greater interest in extension programs and projects, (2) to help club members to become more conscious of their duties and obligations, (3) to create a stronger feeling of unity within the club, (4) to reach more homes in the county, and (5) to increase the number of improved practices adopted.

In order to determine the club which has done the most outstanding work or, in other words, which has accomplished most, a method had to be devised which would evaluate with some degree of accuracy the work done by each club. It was finally decided that all clubs should be rated on a possible score of 2,000 points, the total being divided into a

definite number of points offered for each phase of the club's organization, procedure, and work. The time covered by the report is 1 year, or from December 1 of one year to December 1 of the following year.

Clubs scoring 1,800 or more points are named as county master home demonstration clubs, and from the county master clubs the master home demonstration club of the State is chosen. The State winner receives a gavel which is the permanent property of the club.

There are 481 home demonstration clubs in Colorado, and in January 1937 the membership in these clubs totaled 10,102 women, a large number when one considers the many sparsely settled portions of the State. The individual clubs are affiliated in an organization known as the Colorado Association of Home Demonstration Clubs.

Of the 481 clubs belonging to the association, 142 sent in reports to be judged, and 27 of the clubs reporting qualified for the county master home demonstration honor. It was from these 27 clubs that the State master club, this year the Canon Creek Club of Garfield County, was chosen. The name of the winning club is to be announced each year at the annual meeting of the Colorado Association of Home Demonstration Clubs which occurs during the week of the National Western Stock Show held at Denver in January.

THE problem of satisfactorily recording home demonstration work in the community is being given study in Wyoming. Because the staff did not feel that check sheets submitted by project leaders reflected the complete picture of work done by members of the homemakers' clubs, a new plan is being tried this year which makes possible checking on one sheet the practices adopted by each club member. The names of the members are listed in a lefthand column on a card 22 by 28 inches in size. Across the top of this card, in colored labels, are the goals for the year. At the close of the year's work, these cards are displayed in the club exhibit booth on achievement day.

This plan, known as the Harston plan, is similar to California's ladder plan for encouraging active participation, but its chief purpose is to record practices adopted.

Where this plan has been tried, there has been a substantial increase in practices adopted, and there has developed a greater feeling of what "our whole community is accomplishing."

IN BRIEF

Hail the Pioneer

Contributing to the centennial celebration of the arrival of the Whitman missionary party to the Walla Walla Valley, a luncheon sponsored by the Walla Walla County (Wash.) Homemakers' Federation was held on March 31, the one-hundredth anniversary of the departure of the Whitman party from St. Louis. Considerable interest was manifested in this county-wide event which was attended by 188 rural and city women. Much of this interest was due to the homemakers' first reading project carried in 1936 featuring "Northwest history." This subject was chosen because the wives of the missionaries in the Whitman party were the first white women to establish homes in the Walla Walla territory just 100 years before.

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Farm-Home Sanitation

During the past year the Oklahoma home-management specialists and agricultural engineer have concentrated on improving farm-home sanitation. Homes, yards, and outdoor premises were scored, improved, and rescored after improvements were made.

The improvements recorded were many. To insure plenty of pure water, drainage improvements around wells on more than 1,000 farms were made, and bacteriological examinations of the water supply of 1,400 families were reported. The yards and premises of nearly 8,500 homes were cleaned; 1,800 families provided drainage around their yards; 3,800 homes were furnished with screens at windows and doors; 2,000 homes were equipped with fly traps, and 2,300 farm homes were provided with garbage pails.

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Sirup Manufacture

The farmers of Coosa County, Ala., together with County Agent E. N. Merriwether and M. D. Harman, assistant agronomy specialist, set up a sorghum-sirup-manufacturing demonstration in the Stewartville community.

The project was set up to manufacture a standardized product of high quality and to package it attractively. The containers used were 5-pound pails and quart

glass jugs. A very attractive label was worked out featuring "Farm Maid Brand Sorghum Sirup."

From 100 to 125 gallons were manufactured daily. Twenty-four farmers cooperating in the demonstration manufactured 1,000 quarts and 2,664 five-pound pails of this sirup, totaling 1,582 gallons.

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Egg Profits

Two and a half times as much was accomplished in Missouri egg-marketing work in 1936 as in 1935. Premiums of from 3 to 10 cents per dozen for first-grade eggs went to producers participating in the quality and marketing-improvement program sponsored by the Extension Service in Southwest Missouri. Cooperating in the work were 61 exchanges in 21 counties as compared with the 21 exchanges in 5 counties of the preceding year.

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Budgeting Vitamins

"Cooperation with the public welfare office in the food project in Walla Walla County, Wash., has been carried out successfully," states M. Elmina White, assistant director in home economics in Washington.

At the request of the home visitor in the Walla Walla office of the State department of welfare, Home Agent Mary A. Davis prepared food budgets, menus, and order lists for six relief families. Mrs. Davis accompanied the home visitor to the home of each client before making out the budget and order list and again when it had been completed.

The home visitors report that this service has been extremely helpful to three of the six families.

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4-H Conservation

Forty thousand boys and girls in 83 Michigan counties, have enrolled in 4-H ranger stations and in fire-prevention, soil-conservation, and 4-H pheasant-propagation projects. In addition, 60 activities in conservation also are available to 4-H club members enrolled primarily in other lines of work.

Reaping Results

During the past year vetch production in Lawrence County, Ark., increased more than 3,000 acres over the 1935 production. County Agent John L. Faulkner attributes this increase to the successful vetch demonstrations held in each community of the county—24 in all. Another contributing factor consisted of the government payments which enabled the farmers to buy their own seed.

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Tours

Better-homes tours were especially featured this year in 379 Arkansas communities, where 12,396 people traveled 5,900 miles to view new homes, remodeled homes, year-round gardens, and yard-improvement work. The purpose of the tours was to get new ideas for making homes more attractive, convenient, and comfortable. In addition, 1,461 other better-homes meetings were held in the State with a total attendance of 35,805 persons.

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Knitting Club

The first 4-H knitting club in Arizona was organized this year at Tempe with an enrollment of 15 girls, all of whom completed the required work.

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T. V. A. Cooperation

Iowa farmers, cooperating with T. V. A. and the Iowa Agricultural Extension Service in community test demonstrations of phosphate fertilizer, will use 348 tons of phosphate on more than 5,000 acres of land this year.

One hundred and seventy-seven Iowa farmers, representing as many communities in 16 Iowa counties, have agreed to carry out the 5-year phosphate programs. Fertilizer for these projects, designed to test and demonstrate the value of phosphate along with methods of application and its influence on crops, livestock, land, water supply, and farm income, is being furnished by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The project will also demonstrate the importance of good farming and erosion-control practices, as cooperators have agreed to carry out complete soil and water-control programs.



My Point of View

Stimulating Enthusiasm

The lack of interest and enthusiasm for home demonstration work is the greatest problem I have in conducting home demonstration work in Mason County, Tex.

The original German settlers came directly from the old country, and many of the present inhabitants retain the mother tongue as well as the modes of living.

Mason County, with 826 farm and ranch families, is primarily interested in stock raising, that is, the growing of sheep, goats, and Hereford cattle. The raising of Herefords has become so specialized as to merit the honor of showing more champion Hereford baby beeves than any other county in the State of Texas.

The interest of the families has for many, many years centered around this great industry; therefore, the men and boys have developed qualities of leadership and initiative to a far greater degree than have the women and girls. This tendency of reserve on the part of the feminine sex has been a big hindrance to the general progressiveness in homemaking in the county.

The home demonstration council and girls' 4-H council, representing 19 clubs in Mason County, are cooperating with the home demonstration agent in developing the home demonstration organization. The committees of the 1937 councils have worked out definite, practical plans. Generally speaking, each group is sponsoring:

(1) Free trips to the annual farmers' short course at College Station, Tex., for several of the council and club members.

(2) Encampments for women and girls where other people may see the work done by club members and where club members meet other club members and enjoy mutual interests.

(3) The holding of second club meetings where a club woman, or club women, takes charge of the demonstration after having attended a training school to get specific information from the home agent or staff specialist.

(4) A 10-minute program put on by club members preceding each demonstration.

(5) Achievement day events in each demonstration.

(6) County-wide tours to see each of the demonstrators' demonstrations in a particular phase of work.

(7) Exhibits in show windows at Mason, the county seat.

(8) County club show to exhibit the work done by club members during the year.

These plans and others carry with them a great deal of responsibility, and if properly shouldered, will certainly develop initiative, leadership, and independence in club women and girls in Mason County.

With keener interest aroused, there will follow more home improvements and happier and more satisfying family relationships.—*Mary Anne Carter, county home demonstration agent, Mason County, Tex.*

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The Soil-Conservation Program

On checking out performance sheets for the soil-conservation program last year, I was astonished to see the acres of soil-building crops that had been plowed under. The farmers of this county have realized as never before that their soils must be improved.

Programs such as this one heap a tremendous amount of work on the county agent. So much so that we have had to change our method of doing extension work. Although the added duties prove to be disadvantageous in some respects, I for one believe that the advantages much outweigh the disadvantages.

Ten years ago we county agents were continually looking for something to do and for someone who was willing to listen and cooperate. Today we are having more calls than we can attend to. A great many of these calls are not actually extension calls, but the agent who is on the alert can always weave in some form of true extension work. We are now dealing with open minds and working with all classes of farmers, rather than with a few hand-picked individuals.—*L. R. Langley, county agent, Cobb County, Ga.*

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Changing Attitudes

There apparently is a change developing in the attitude of many of our farmers toward extension information. Many of these same men are doing such things as

having their soil tested for available calcium and phosphorus. A few short years ago, they would have made light of the same thing. A more friendly feeling toward the cooperative movement is developing. By this, we do not speak of cooperatives in terms of cooperative purchasing and buying alone but in the sense of more willingness to cooperate on educational programs which benefit the community as well as the individual. The farm bureau office is being used to a large extent as a clearing house for extension information. There is less criticism of the farm adviser and extension workers, and the term "a white-collared farmer" is less often heard. The average farmer realizes that one man alone can do little. He evidently realizes that his individual farm problems, which take in the care of soil, soil-building and conservation, and livestock breeding and management, are problems too large for him to solve alone.—*C. S. Love, county agent, Christian County, Ill.*

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Home Visits

Home visits are of untold value. Here the agent gains first-hand knowledge of the family and its problems; here she offers individual suggestions; and here she makes a closer bond of friendship and wins the highest degree of confidence. Home visits seem to be the best possible way of reaching many people who will not come out to meetings. They are equally as important as club meetings in helping club members with their problems. Often several neighbors come in while the agent is visiting to listen to suggestions given. In many homes visited, the homemaker would bring out an old garment and ask the agent to advise her in making it over. It was interesting to note just how many homes were keeping farm accounts. Some had started too late to give a complete account of money made and spent but expect to continue to keep this account. Others plan to start. In making home visits, the agent gave help on many subjects, including food selection and preparation, preservation and conservation, helpful and instructive advice about home work, sanitation, poultry, dairy, fruits, truck crops, and exterior beautification.—*Sarah G. Cureton, home demonstration agent, Pickens County, S. C.*

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FARMERS plan large increases in the acreage of spring-planted and other important crops. But most crop acreage will still be under the average for 1929 to 1932. Generally speaking, the eastern half of the country was warmer and wetter than usual during the winter, while the western half was colder and drier than usual. The spring wheat area is still in need of moisture to sprout the new seedings.

DEMAND Continued Strength
Demand for farm products depends mostly upon the level of consumers' incomes, and consumers' incomes usually go up and down with the volume of output of industrial goods. Continued strength in demand is in prospect during the next few months in view of the unpredictable factors and might after this outlook. Industrial output rose in February and this outlook, activity dropped off a little in early March. Important indicators of business and January has been fully regained. Industrial production had in December been fully regained. Industrial production has also been rising in foreign countries. Reinforcement are important purchasers of American farm products. Reinforcement

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*Including monthly prices received by farmers, parity prices, cash income received by farmers, the general trend of prices and wages, measures of domestic demand, and others.

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